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Art Unit: 1743

Fax No.: 703-746-7415

From: Steven W. Caldwell

Subject: U.S. Application Ser. No. 09/694,130
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Title: DISPENSER AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING DNA CHIP

Our Ref.: 789_060

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Comments:

1. Fig. 2F of Dubrow shows that apertures 206 are collectively formed in a single cover plate, and therefore, Dubrow's annular ridges 208 are not *separately attached* on outer portion of body structure 100, as claimed.
2. Hara and Shimada (structure similar to Hara) patents - Fig. 3 of Hara shows that ink supply port 182 terminates at the bottom portion of container body 1 (i.e., Hara discloses that packing member 115 is disposed *within* each ink supply port (see col. 4, lines 63-65)). Accordingly, there is no holding section attached on an outer portion of container body 1 at or proximate a circumferential edge of ink supply port 182, as claimed.

Informal Draft of Proposed Claims 7 and 31

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A dispenser comprising a plurality of arranged micropipettes each including a pouring port for pouring a sample solution from the outside, a cavity in communication with said pouring port for pouring and charging said sample solution therein, and a discharge port in communication with said cavity for discharging said sample solution, each of said micropipettes formed from at least one substrate, and including a piezoelectric/electrostrictive element disposed on at least one wall surface of said at least one substrate which forms said cavity so that said sample solution is movable in said cavity, and said sample solution being discharged from said discharge port of each of said micropipettes, wherein:

a holding section for holding a pipette for pouring said solution into said pouring port is provided at a circumferential edge of said pouring port of each of said micropipettes, each said holding section being separately attached on an outer portion of said substrate at or proximate a circumferential edge of a respective one of said pouring ports.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): A dispenser comprising a plurality of arranged micropipettes each including a pouring port into which a sample solution from the outside is provided, a cavity in communication with said pouring port, into which said sample solution is supplied, and a discharge port in communication with said cavity from which said sample solution is discharged, each of said micropipettes are formed from at least one substrate, and include a piezoelectric/electrostrictive element disposed on at least one wall surface of said at least one substrate which forms said cavity so that said sample solution is movable in said cavity, wherein:

a holding section for holding a pipette, from which said solution is supplied into said pouring port, is provided at a circumferential edge of said pouring port of each of said micropipettes, and includes a tube for receiving said pipette, each said holding section being separately attached on an outer portion of said substrate at or proximate a circumferential edge of a respective one of said pouring ports.